GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4254
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005
CHANNELS UNDER DTH SERVICE
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of free Channels and pay Channels under DTH service in the country;

(b) whether the ratio of advertisements is very high in pay Channels;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to formulate a policy to provide these pay Channels free/at nominal charges;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of ratio of time periods between advertisements and original programme on free and pay Channels?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a):.The only private DTH Service provider M/s. ASC Enterprises Ltd. is providing 85 TV Channels to its subscribers on monthly subscription charges. However, the DTH service of Doordarshan provides 33 TV Channels and 12 Radio channels free to its subscribers, as Doodarshan does not collect monthly subscription charges.

(b) to (f): The duration of advertisement time either on FTA or pay channels is not monitored by the Government. Presently there is no proposal to formulate a policy to provide pay channels free / at nominal charges.